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09/627,009	07/27/2000	James J. Macor	MACOR 9	2699

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EXAMINER

ALPHONSE, FRITZ

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2675

DATE MAILED: 03/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/627,009

Applicant(s)
Macor

Examiner
Fritz Alphonse

Art Unit
2675



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 27, 2000
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-53 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 8-9, 11-16, 19-28, 34-39, 42-47 and 49-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Failla (U.S. Pat. No. 5,128,662).

As to claims 1 and 42, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor (210) comprising: a primary display platform (217) having a display screen; and at least one auxiliary display platform (213) having a display screen and being rotatably connected to said primary display platform (217)..

As to claims 2 and 43, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor, wherein said at least one auxiliary display platform (213) is adapted to rotate from a closed position to an opened position.

As to claims 3 and 45, Failla (fig. 23) shows a computer monitor, wherein said at least one auxiliary display platform (213) is sized and shaped to cover at least a portion of said display screen of said primary display platform in said closed position.

As to claims 4 and 46, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor (210), wherein said at least one auxiliary display platform is sized and shaped to cover all of said display screen of said primary display platform in said closed position.

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As to claims 8, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor (210) of claim 1, wherein said primary display platform (217) is rotatably connected to said at least one auxiliary display platform (214) through at least one hinge (270).

As to claims 9, 44 and 47 Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor (210), where in said at least one auxiliary display platform (213) is electrically connected to said primary display platform (217) through said at least one hinge (see figure 17; col. 9, lines 30-44).

As to claims 11-13 and 34-36, Failla (fig. 25) shows a computer monitor (307), comprising a first auxiliary display platform (312) rotatably connected to a primary display platform (314) with a horizontally-directed hinge (370) and, a second said auxiliary display platform (316) rotatably connected to said primary display platform (314) with a second horizontally-directed hinge (377) and, wherein said first and second auxiliary display platforms are sized and shaped to cover at least a portion of said display screen of said primary display platform in said closed to position.

As to claims 14-15 and 37-38, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor comprising a first auxiliary display platform (213) rotatably connected to said primary display platform (217) with a vertically-directed hinge (270) and, a second said auxiliary display platform (214) rotatably connected to said primary display platform (217) with a second vertically-directed hinge (270). See figure 17.

As to claims 16 and 39, Failla (fig. 2) shows a computer monitor, comprising a third auxiliary display platform rotatably connected to a primary display platform with a horizontally-directed hinge (70).

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As to claims 19 and 25, Failla (figs. 16-23) shows a computer monitor, wherein the primary display platform and said at least one auxiliary display platform are integrated to inhibit overlapping of any displayed images (col. 9, lines 50-63)

As to claim 20, the claim differs from claim 1 only in that the limitation "a processing unit" is added. However, Failla's monitor system is designed for a computer which inherently comprises a processing unit (col. 1, lines 30-34).

As to claims 21-24, the claims have substantially the limitations of claims 2-4. Therefore, they are analyzed as previously discussed in claims 2-4 above.

As to claims 26-28, the claims have substantially the limitations of claims 8-9. Therefore, they are analyzed as previously discussed in claims 8-9 above.

As to claims 49-53, method claims 49-53 correspond to apparatus claims 1 and 19, therefore, they are analyzed as previously discussed in claims 1 and 19 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5-7, 31-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Ohgami (U.S. Pat. No. 6,191,938).

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As to claims 5 and 31, Failla does not explicitly disclose one activation/deactivation mechanism for turning on and turning off the display screens of said display platforms.

However, in the same field of endeavor, Ohgami discloses an electronic apparatus comprising one activation/deactivation mechanism for turning on and turning off the display screens of said display platforms (see abstract).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Failla by specifically providing a mechanism for turning on and turning off the display screens, as disclosed by Ohgami. The motivation would have been a desire to save power, thereby the cost of energy would be cut.

As to claims 6 and 32, Failla does not explicitly teach an activation/deactivation mechanism is adapted for turning on said display screens through rotation of said at least one auxiliary display platform from said closed position to said opened position and turning off said display screens through rotation of said at least one auxiliary display platform from said opened position to said closed position. However, these limitations are disclosed by Ohgami. See the motivation above.

As to claims 7 and 33, the claims have substantially the limitations of claim 6. Therefore, they are analyzed as discussed in claim 7.

5. Claims 10, 29-30 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Tran (U.S. Pat. No. 5,805,415).

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As to claims 10, 29-30, 48 Failla does not disclose one auxiliary display platform is optically connected to said primary display platform through said primary display platform through at least one hinge.

However, in the same field of endeavor, Tran discloses a detachable flat panel computer display and support, wherein a permanent or detachable fiber optic connection 40 is established at a the display hinge (col. 8, lines 3-17).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Failla by specifically providing a permanent or detachable fiber optic connection, as disclosed by Tran. Doing so, it becomes possible for Failla to improve a user's viewing ability so that one can position the computer monitor at a comfortable distance and height for the eye.

6. Claims 17-18, 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Failla in view of Gouko (U.S. Pat. No. 6,222,507).

As to claims 17-18 and 40-41, Failla does not teach a fourth auxiliary display platform rotatably connected to a primary display platform with a second horizontally-directed hinge. However, this limitation is disclosed by Gouko (see figures 3-6).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Failla by specifically providing a fourth display platform with a second horizontally-directed hinge, as disclosed by Gouko. Doing so would provide a display apparatus for use in a personal computer which has a plurality of display panels and is possible to see a plurality of images simultaneously.

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Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Reavey et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,847,698) discloses an electronic book device.

Batio et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,949,643) discloses a portable computer having split keyboard and pivotal display screen halves.

Fowler et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,302,612) discloses a pivotally extensible display device.

Chombo (U.S. Pat. No. 6,313,828) discloses an electronic book.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fritz Alphonse whose telephone number is (703) 308-8534.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Saras, can be reached at (703) 305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231


or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


F. Alphonse

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March 8, 2002


CHANH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER